

be damaged by perceptual compression, the compliant player/viewer doesn't need to rely on this watermark (it has the digital secure wrapper to attest to the copy's legitimacy). In the context of the preferred embodiment for this invention, we envision using the feature-modulation watermarking techniques described in any of U.S. Patent 5,940,135 to Petrovic at al., entitled "Apparatus and Method for Encoding and Decoding Information in Analog Signals," issued August 17, 1999; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/974,920 to Petrovic at al., entitled "Apparatus and Method for Embedding and Extracting Information in Analog Signals Using Distributed Signal Features," filed November 20, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,175,627, issued January 16, 2001; and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/106,213 to Petrovic, entitled "Apparatus and Method for Embedding and Extracting Information in Analog Signals Using Replica Modulation," filed June 29, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,427,012, issued June 30, 2002; all of which are commonly assigned to the assignee hereof, and are incorporated herein by reference.

These core watermarking technologies, offered by Verance Corp., offer many advantages, including a higher degree of resistance to forgery than least-significant-bit (LSB) approaches to Fragile watermarking. This advantage occurs since Verance's watermarks are intimately related to the original signal and cannot be stripped and transferred from one digital object to another, or from original to later generations of the same digital object.